

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims.

1. (Currently Amended) A system for ~~providing enhanced quality~~ audio streaming, the system comprising:

an audio streaming server providing an audio stream;

a client including a buffer storing at least portions of said audio stream received from said audio streaming server;

a buffer status sensor operative to monitor a rate of playback of the contents of said buffer, and to monitor a rate of said audio stream, said buffer status sensor ~~comprising including~~ an audio sampler for sampling portions of said audio stream, ~~wherein said audio sampler is voice command responsive~~ said buffer status sensor identifying, as a function of said playback rate and of said audio stream rate, one or more locations in said audio stream where an audio segment could be inserted; and

a client audio output ~~enhancer inserter~~ operative in response to an output from said buffer status sensor for providing a modified audio stream output including ~~inserted~~ pre-recorded ~~informational~~ audio segments, which were not received from said audio streaming server, inserted at one or more of said audio stream locations identified by said buffer status sensor.

2-4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 1 and wherein said inserted audio segments comprise advertisements.

6. (Original) A system according to claim 1 and wherein said client comprises a telephone.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Original) A system according to claim 1 and wherein said client comprises a telephone and an IVR.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Original) A system according to claim 1 and wherein said client provides a real time output.

11. (Currently Amended) A method ~~for providing enhanced quality of~~ audio streaming, the method comprising:

providing an audio stream to a client;

storing in a buffer at least portions of said audio stream;

monitoring a rate of playback of said contents of said buffer and monitoring a rate of said audio stream, wherein said monitoring of said playback rate of said contents of said buffer and said monitoring of said audio stream rate ~~are is~~ performed by a buffer status sensor ~~comprising including~~ an audio sampler sampling portions of said audio stream, and ~~wherein said audio sampler is voice command responsive~~ said buffer status sensor identifying, as a function of said playback rate and of said audio stream rate, one or more locations in said audio stream where an audio segment could be inserted; and

providing a modified audio stream, which includes ~~inserted~~ inserting pre-recorded informational audio segments, which were not received in said audio stream, at one or more of said audio stream locations identified by, ~~in response to an output from~~ said monitoring.

12-14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 11 and wherein said inserted audio segments comprise advertisements.

16. (Original) A method according to claim 11 and wherein said client comprises a telephone.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Original) A method according to claim 11 and wherein said client comprises a telephone and an IVR.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Original) A method according to claim 11 and wherein said modified audio stream is a real time output.

21. (Currently Amended) A system for ~~providing sophisticated~~ seeking in an audio stream, the system comprising:

an audio streaming server providing an audio stream;

an audio sampler, ~~intermittently sampling portions of said audio stream wherein said audio sampler is voice command responsive~~ and identifying portions of said audio stream in a sequential order as found in the audio stream;

an audio sampling store, storing said portions ~~sampled~~ identified by said audio sampler; and

an audio stream portion navigating seeker operative to sequentially ~~render~~ play said identified portions in said sequential order and operative to insert at least one informational audible tone among said played portions ~~rendered thereby~~.

22-24. (Canceled)

25. (Original) A system according to claim 21 and wherein said audio sampler samples portions which are selected generally periodically.

26. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 21 and wherein said audio stream portion navigating seeker is operative to ~~render~~ play said portions via a telephone.

27. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 21 and wherein said audio stream portion navigating seeker is operative to ~~render~~ play said portions via an IVR and a telephone.

28-29. (Canceled)

30. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 21 and also comprising a user operative, seeking responsive audio stream ~~renderer~~ player, operative to ~~render~~ play the audio stream beginning from a sampled portion selected by a user.

31. (Currently Amended) A method ~~for providing sophisticated~~ of seeking in an audio stream, the method comprising:

providing an audio stream;

~~intermittently~~ sampling portions of said audio stream, wherein said ~~intermittently~~ sampling ~~is voice command responsive~~ audio sampling identifies portions of said audio stream in a sequential order as found in said audio stream;

storing said ~~intermittently sampled~~ identified portions of said audio stream;

seeking within said audio stream by ~~sequentially rendering~~ playing said identified portions in said sequential order; and

inserting at least one informational audible tone among said played portions ~~rendered~~ thereby.

32-34. (Canceled)

35. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 31 ~~and~~ wherein said ~~intermittently~~ sampling samples portions ~~which~~ are selected generally periodically.

36. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 31 ~~and~~ wherein said seeking includes ~~rendering~~ playing said portions via a telephone.

37. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 31 ~~and wherein said seeking includes~~ rendering playing said portions via an IVR and a telephone.

38-39. (Canceled)

40. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 31 ~~and also comprising rendering~~ playing the audio stream beginning from a sampled portion selected by a user.

41. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1 wherein said client audio output ~~enhancer~~ inserter provides audible cues from a sample of audio selected by a user, ~~enabling said user to better orientate said user with said audio stream.~~

42. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11 wherein said providing a modified audio stream further comprises providing audible cues from a sample of audio selected by a user; ~~enabling said user to better orientate said user with said audio stream.~~

43. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein said pre-recorded audio segments comprise one of background noise and background music.

44. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11 wherein said providing a modified audio stream ~~which~~ includes pre-recorded audio segments, the pre-recorded audio segments comprising one of background noise and background music.

45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 31 wherein at least one audio tone comprises one of background noise and background music.